**U.S. Department of Justice** 

United States Attorney Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

June 18, 2004

INDIVIDUAL SENTENCED TO 46 MONTHS
IN PRISON FOR EBAY FRAUD

RE: UNITED STATES v. ROLLOND M. EDDY

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that Rollond M. Eddy, age 42, of 4211 Route 21 South, Canandaigua, New York, was sentenced to 46 months in prison and ordered to pay \$214,563.05 in restitution by the Honorable Michael A. Telesca, United States District Judge, in connection with his guilty plea on December 3, 2003 to Count 1 of the Indictment, charging him with wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, carrying a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both. Eddy also pled guilty to Count 8 of the Indictment, charging him with mail fraud, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1341, carrying a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the sentencing, stated that the from May 2000 through to April 2002, Eddy engaged in a scheme to defraud certain persons using wire transmissions, including faxes and e-mails. More particularly, Eddy, doing business as Executive Travel & Limousine Sales and Executive Sales/Advantage Limousines & Buses, and advertising on the Internet, offered to sell specific limousines and issued purchase contracts for those limousines through faxes and e-mails transmitted across interstate lines, and accepted money in the form of deposits for the limousines, but never owned or had possession of the limousines and never provided the limousines to the persons who sent the money.

From November 2001 through September 2002, Eddy also engaged in a scheme to defraud certain persons using the Internet by listing items for sale on the Internet auction site eBay. Eddy corresponded with persons who placed bids on those items via email, and instructed the persons to send him monies, via mail or electronic transfer. Eddy never sent the items for which those persons sent money.

The plea was the culmination of a joint investigation on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge, Peter J. Ahearn, and the United States Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of William E. Kezer, Postal Inspector in Charge of the New York Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service.

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